

Feed additives authorisations: application process

Published by AGRINFO on 04 Dec 2025

EU to update and simplify the application form for feed additive authorisations

[Draft Regulation](#) amending Regulation (EC) No 429/2008 as regards the application form for authorisations of feed additives and the designation of target animal species and categories

Draft [Annex](#)

Update

The European Commission proposes to improve the process of preparing and managing applications for the authorisation of feed additives (set out in Regulation [429/2008](#)). This includes:

- simplifying the form to reflect the transition from physical to electronic submissions
- clarifying definitions of animal categories to ensure they cover all possible animal species, and to better distinguish between “major species” and “minor species”
- shortening the required minimum duration of efficacy studies for certain animals.

The Commission has notified the proposal to World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS) Committee ([G/SPS/N/EU/898](#)).

Impacted products

Feed additives

What is changing?

The European Commission is proposing the following changes to Regulation [249/2008](#) to improve the process of preparing and presenting applications for the authorisation of feed additives:

- simplification of the application form (replacing the current Annex I)
- shortening of the required minimum duration of long-term efficacy studies for certain animal species/categories (e.g. laying hens, salmon, trout) (amending the current Annex II, point 4.4)

- a clearer distinction between “major species” and “minor species”, with definitions of each animal species (set out in a new Annex V).

These new Annexes to Regulation 249/2008, including the revised application form, can be found in the draft [Annex](#) to the proposal.

Why?

Since 2021, all applications for feed additives must be submitted via the Commission’s electronic submission system. The current application form, designed in 2008, does not reflect this evolution and needs to be updated to facilitate the management of applications. Experience in handling applications has also shown the need for greater clarity in defining the categories of animals.

Timeline

The Regulation is expected to be published in March 2026, and to apply from September 2026.

Recommended Actions

Competent authorities of countries that are members of the WTO can submit comments on the EU’s proposal by emailing the [EU SPS Enquiry Point](#) until **24 January 2026**.

Background

Regulation (EC) [429/2008](#) sets out detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation [1831/2003](#) regarding applications for the authorisation of feed additives and their assessment. Annex I to Regulation (EC) 429/2008 contains the form that must be used to submit an application for the authorisation of a feed additive. Annex IV to that Regulation lists target animal categories and their respective definitions, and indicates the minimum duration of related efficacy studies.

Resources

Commission Regulation (EC) [429/2008](#) as regards the preparation and the presentation of applications and the assessment and the authorisation of feed additives

Regulation (EC) [1831/2003](#) on additives for use in animal nutrition

Sources

[Draft Regulation](#) as regards the application form for authorisations of feed additives and the designation of target animal species and categories

Draft [Annex](#)

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